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OFFICIAL

PATENT  
Docket No. 55943US003IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): BEDINGHAM et al. ) Group Art Unit: 1743  
 )  
 Serial No.: 09/677,805 ) Examiner: Brian R. Gordon  
 Confirmation No.: 3624 )  
 )  
 Filed: 2 October 2000 )  
 )  
 For: SAMPLE PROCESSING APPARATUS, METHODS AND SYSTEMS

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Mail Stop Amendment  
 Commissioner for Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), it is respectfully requested that a one-month extension of time be granted in which to respond to the outstanding Office Action mailed 8 March 2004, thereby extending the date on which the period of response is set to expire from 8 June 2004 to 8 July 2004.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 13-4895 in the amount of \$110.00 to cover the required extension fee. Please charge any additional fees or credit any over-payment to PTO Deposit Account No. 13-4895.

FEE VALUE	
ACCOUNTABILITY	
DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO.	
13	4895
FEE CODE	VALUE
1201	172.
1251	110.

07/26/2004 HSMITH1 00000002 134895 09677805  
 Sale Ref: 00000002 DASH: 134895 09677805  
 01 FC:1201

Respectfully submitted for

BEDINGHAM et al.

By  
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07/26/2004 HSMITH1  
 01 FC:1201

The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.6(d) to the Patent and Trademark Office, addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 8<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2004, at 12:31 p.m. (Central Time).

Signature: *Kevin W. Raasch*  
 Name: Kevin W. Raasch

8 July 2004  
 Date

By: *KWR*  
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07/26/2004 HSMITH1 00000001 134895 09677805

01 FC: PAGE 2/15 \* RCVD AT 7/8/2004 1:32:20 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] \* SVR:USPTO-EFAX-1/1 \* DNIS:8729306 \* CSID:6123051228 \* DURATION (mm-ss):04:58

07/26/2004 HSMITH1 00000001 134895 09677805  
 Sale Ref: 00000001 DASH: 134895 09677805  
 01 FC:1251